

A version showing the changes made is attached hereto.

A new declaration which incorporates the referenced applications and filing dates will be submitted in the near future.

Respectfully submitted:

Date: 9 July 2002

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APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT

HYDROCONVERSION PROCESS FOR MAKING
LUBRICATING OIL BASESTOCKS

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CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/737,044
filed December 14, 2000, which is
This is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/532,377 filed March 21,

2000 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/318,075 filed May 25,
1999 which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/768,252, filed
December 17, 1996.

Atty. Docket No.: JHT-0104

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HYDROCONVERSION PROCESS FOR MAKING LUBRICATING OIL BASESTOCKS

5 **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

*a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/1737,044
filed December 14, 2000, which is
[0001] This is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/532,377 filed March
21, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/318,075 filed May
25, 1999, which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/768,252
filed December 17, 1996.*

10 **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

[0002] This invention relates to lubricating oil basestocks and to a process for preparing lubricating oil basestocks having a high saturates content, high viscosity indices and low volatilities.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 [0003] It is well known to produce lubricating oil basestocks by solvent refining. In the conventional process, crude oils are fractionated under atmospheric pressure to produce atmospheric resids which are further fractionated under vacuum. Select distillate fractions are then optionally deasphalting and solvent extracted to produce a paraffin rich raffinate and an aromatics rich extract.

20 The raffinate is then dewaxed to produce a dewaxed oil which is usually hydrofinished to improve stability and remove color bodies.

[0004] Solvent refining is a process which selectively isolates components of crude oils having desirable properties for lubricant basestocks. Thus the crude oils used for solvent refining are restricted to those which are highly paraffinic in nature as aromatics tend to have lower viscosity indices (VI), and are therefore less desirable in lubricating oil basestocks. Also, certain types of aromatic compounds